

The Honourable Court

The House of

COMMONS

Now assembled in Parliament.

The humble Petition of many hundred
thousands, inhabiting within the thir-
teene Shires of WALES.

Directed to the House the 12. of *February*, 1641.
shewing their manifold grievances, for which
they desire redresse from the Parliament.

With their motion that their Country may be more
strongly fortified with Ammunition of Armes.

And how they freely proffer themselves to assist
the Protestants in *Ireland*.



Printed at London for T. Howell. 1642.

TO
The Honourable Court
The House of
COMMONS

Now assembled in Parliament

The humble Petition of many hundred
thousands, inhabiting within the three
teen Shires of WALES.

Directed to the House the 12. of February, 1641.
Shewing their manifold grievances, for which
they desire redresse from the Parliament.

With their motion that their Country may be more
strongly fortified with Artillery of Ammunition.

And how they freely proffer themselves to assist
the Parliament in Wales.

Printed in London for T. Hursey, 1641.



TO THE
HONOURABLE COVRT

THE
House of Commons

now assembled in Parliament.

The humble Petition of many hundred thousands, inhabiting within the
thirteene Shires of *Wales*;

Shrewsb,



That the manifold pressures, under which we have groaned these many yeares, have beene by you endeavoured to be reformed, and amended by your unwearied labors, and uncessant consultations. Yet notwithstanding your sedulous vigilancies hath wrastled with those extreme disturbances, and distempers in the Kingdome: We still finde out many inconveniences arising afresh, to the great amazement and discouragement of his Majesties loyall Subjects. Wherefore our humble motion is, that your Honours would se-

riously revolve the still growing miseries, under
 which we have been, and are now subjected: that
 you would be graciously pleased to adde a period to
 the calamities which are pressed upon us. The dif-
 fusive current of these grievances distill from one
 originall spring, and that we conceive to be a ma-
 lignant party, and faction, who build obstructions
 against your deliberate and judicious determinati-
 ons; who cast scandalous aspersions upon what hath
 been by you enacted; and labour to nullifie, or at
 least to extenuate in a repugnant opposition, what
 you are in agitation to institute. The boldnesse of
 these malevolent adversaries hath too audaciously
 outdared the very fundamentall lawes, and hath trea-
 cherously studied to subvert the foundation; upon
 which the Justice and Religion of this Nation is
 firmly built and established. We earnestly there-
 fore entreat your Honours maturely to consider their
 malicious intents, and daily practises against the
 State; which if they be not seasonably castigated in
 time, before their infant conspiracies grow to the
 prime height of their ripe perfection, they will then
 become incorrigible. Yet withall wee impartially
 acknowledge your sedulity in correcting and seque-
 string them, but your endeavours have still beene
 frustrate and retarded, by reason of their abounding
 malignitie. And whereas divers high taxations have
 beene oftentimes imposed on us, wee did alwayes
 upon the consideration of the same, expect a refor-
 mation; but as yet wee have found little or no re-
 dresse; the cause of which we neither conceive, or
 suspect

suspect to be produced by you; but principally by
 the calumnious suggestions of that factious party;
 which we desire may be excluded and expelled the
 House of Peeres: Thus the liberty of the Subject is
 trampled downe, the Trades decay in the whole
 Kingdom, and for our parts, our Estates are so mi-
 serably wasted by heavy impositions, that without
 your propitious relief we shall perish with our
 Wives and Families; and Cattell which is the
 chiefeft mine of our Countrey, have been bought,
 and driven from us by whole flockes and heards at
 once; some transported into *Ireland*, and others into
 most parts of *England*, so that unlesse some suddain
 redresse be speedily occasioned by you, we shall be
 impoverished: our serious motion is therefore, that
 your Honours would be pleased to vindicate the abu-
 sive wrongs done unto our Countrey, and that you
 would speedily ease us of this burden of misery,
 which we are no longer able to support. And whereas
 we especially have alwayes shewn our loyalty to his
 Majesty, our awfull obedience unto you, obsequi-
 ously subscribing to what you have been pleased to
 impose upon us; yet notwithstanding we are disre-
 spected, and shamefully derided with ludibrious
 contempt more than any other Countrey whatso-
 ever; wherefore we beseech you that the authours, ur-
 gers, or suggesters of the same may be found out, and
 known, yea and suffer exemplary and condigne pu-
 nishment for their reproaching us, according to their
 just demerits; for otherwise we can conceive this
 Epidemicall derision of us to be nothing else, but a

(scorning detestation to our known fidelity; which as we have hitherto kept, so shall still continue inviolable) this grievance especially, unlesse it be amended, will become a great discouragement to all our Countrey-men.

We desire likewise that Learning be not too much discountenanced and contemned, but rather that it may be advanced to its former dignity: for it is a most ignominious, shamefull, blasphemous, and unknowne thing; yea, most incongruous both to the Word of God, and common reason too, that Cobblers, and Doctors of Divinity should be equall competitors. Thus if Scholarship be defaced, *England* (the glory of all Nations lately) is suddenly like to degenerate, and decline from its former splendor, and so consequently become barbarous. Yet we speak not this in behalfe of any, for we call God to witnesse, and our own actions can testifie as much, that whosoever your Honours shall finde culpable, and delinquent, we desire may be prosecuted according to the due processe of Law, and (if the atrocity of the crime require it) be fully executed according to the justice of the Realme. But amidst all our own calamities especially, we cannot omit that of *Ireland*, to hear of the condoleable misery of the Protestant party, and the inhumane tyranny of those hellish Rebels: they have been in wofull distresse a long time, and yet almost destitute of relief, till of late your Honours have been moved to commiserate their distressed estates; and as you have begun, so we beseech you proceed, and continue in the same progression

tion of mercy and charity: that the first beginning
 of Reformation do not initiate in cruell opposition;
 and that the foundation whereon that Reformation
 should be establish'd, be not written with the char-
 acters, and inscription of blood. For our parts, we
 will to the uttermost of our powers labour to repell,
 and divert the furious rage of those tyrants, and wil to
 the end of our lives stand in the defence, and mainte-
 nance of Protestant Religion. What we now crave
 more, is your mutuall concordance with his Maje-
 sty, that you may both concur in a co-unite cor-
 respondency of opinions, that the weighty affaires
 of the Kingdom may be deliberated with more facili-
 ty, and that whatsoever you consult of, may tend to
 the honour of God; the peace, safety, and tranquil-
 lity of the Land: that the malignant insolency of
 the Recusant party may be more easily curbed;
 that delinquents may be called to their trials, be pu-
 nished, and suffer just execution, according as they
 have promerited, with expedition: least they should
 break out, and hatch new conspiracies, and so con-
 taminate the more ~~Andere~~ body: that the manifold
 abuses to our Countrey be respectively vindicated;
 that the confusions, divisions, distractions, and di-
 sturbances may be allayed in a peacefull mitigation;
 that the Divine Worship of God be no longer pro-
 phaned, but that it may rather be setled speedily in
 a purer way; that a clearer way may be opened for
 Trading and Merchandise; that especially this be-
 ing duly considered, that we may be better fortified,
 and provided with Ammunition of Armes, and
 other

other military Hostility, that so we may be more able to encounter with any forraigne Enemy, that shall presume to oppose, or invade the British Nation: That thus being armed against any opposition, we may more freely enjoy the peace and liberty of our Consciences, and estates; to the great comfort of his Majesty, the immortall fame of your Honour, with the safety and prosperity of the whole Kingdom.

Thus your Petitioners shall be bound to pray for the happy successe of your consultations, that the Divine Providence of Almighty God may direct and prosper all your deliberations, &c.

F I N I S.



